

C. Newark: NY 07102-1161  
April, 1985

# SAVE THE CHILDREN!

## VOTE **TINA C. JOHNSON** FOR **SCHOOL BOARD A-17**

**FIGHT for  
People's Democracy!**



**SAVE THE  
CHILDREN!**

**April 2, 1985**

Tina Johnson (Takalifu) is a LONG time resident of Newark. She was a well known, much beloved community activist in the North Ward and for the last few years has been an equally respected grass-roots voice from the South Ward.

For the bulk of her adult life Tina has been involved in activities to promote quality education for Newark students. She attended Central Avenue School and Central High. After raising a family she returned to Bloomfield College for her bachelor's degree.

Unlike many candidates for the Newark Board of Education (and even quite a few Board members), Tina's children attended Newark schools. Her grandchildren attend them today. It's about time the people had a representative on the Board of Education who knows from

day to day experience, for years and years, about the deterioration of Newark schools, someone who has a living commitment to transform the school system for the good of our children!

Tina was one of the authors of a Drug Education Guide for the Newark Board of Education. She also served as chairperson of the Title One program at Abington Ave. School for seven years. She was also PTA president at Wm. H. Horton School.

Ms. Johnson is a member of the House of Prayer Church and a member of its Board of Trustees. She is also director of the church summer camp. She has been a member of the community council for the Committee for a Unified Newark. "Knowledge is power," says Tina, "but it can be stymied if we let ignorance lead us."

Paid for by: Committee to Save the Children; R. McRae, Coordinator

## Partial Platform: SAVE THE CHILDREN

# Fight for People's Democracy!

1. Ward representation as well as at-large representation on the Board of Education.

2. The people themselves must exercise control over all phases of the educational process. The community must be involved in all phases of the budget process by means of ward-based People's Education Committees.

\* An austerity program for superfluous positions and bureaucrats, not the children's education.

\* The community must be given more power to evaluate teachers, administrators and curriculum.

3. Sweeping curriculum changes; ethnic studies, Black, Latino, women's and labor studies must be included in the new curriculum. Computer literacy must become a priority; we need science programs aimed at attracting minority students to the sciences, including math. We need writing programs, together with maintenance and expansion of bi-lingual programs.

4. Dismantle all remaining aspects of the infamous "Program Modifications" which all but destroyed our school system. Restore Art, Music, Home Economics, Library, athletic and recreational programs.

5. Introduction of Arts and Culture programs using existing institutions (public libraries, Symphony Hall, WBGO radio station) to raise the level and the continuity of such programs. Bring artists into the schools on a regular and rotation basis to deepen the educational process as well as to make it more compelling.

\* Organize a city-wide Culture and Arts Program: City-Wide Orchestra and Jazz Band; City-Wide Theater Company.

\* School letters given for ethnic, Black, Latino and women's studies, jazz bands, theater.

\* In the present social structure the few areas in which Black and minority youth are allowed to advance in a general way include Arts, Music and Athletics. The school board must begin to make Newark athletic programs among the best in the country; arts and music pro-

grams likewise. We must have athletic and entertainment scouts coming to Newark from all parts of the country.

7. Effective remedial programs. Enter into relationships with area universities to contribute to remedial programs. Set up permanent relationships with these institutions to ensure that a certain percentage of Newark youth enter these schools yearly.

8. Restore the physical integrity of Newark schools. Schools must have text books, supplies, quality facilities and proper maintenance of physical plants.

\* Schools must have bands, uniforms, instruments; all of the features that enhance going to school.

\* Security guards must be restored to the schools and expanded. Truant officers and guidance counselors must also be restored.

9. Newark minority business must be given priority for contracts with the Board. Consultants should be brought in to deal with contract requirements if they lack technical qualifications that can be remedied.

\* Comprehensive affirmative action at all areas of the educational system.

10. Oppose the presence of regular police in the school system. We must fight against those who would criminalize the Newark schools.

11. Recreation programs in the schools of community interest should be held regularly without exorbitant charges to the students or community.

12. Main Board business, communications, signs, notices, minutes must be bi-lingual.

13. Special Education programs must be evaluated and made a priority for the entire school system. Special education materials must also be bi-lingual.

14. Newark Board of Education (and people of Newark) must have self-determination! Newark education process must also be more autonomous and suffer less interference from State and County officials.

**ELECT TINA JOHNSON to the NEWARK SCHOOL BOARD**  
**April 2, 1985**